

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ depression which comprises administering to a patient ~~in need of such treatment or prevention~~ a therapeutically ~~or prophylactically~~ effective amount of racemic or optically pure didesmethylsibutramine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or clathrate ~~or prodrug~~ thereof.

42. (Currently amended) The method of claim 41, wherein the optically pure didesmethylsibutramine is (R)-didesmethylsibutramine.

43. (Currently amended) The method of claim 41, wherein the amount of didesmethylsibutramine administered is from about 0.1 mg to 60 mg per day.

44. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the amount of didesmethylsibutramine administered is from about 2 mg to 30 mg per day.

45. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44, wherein the amount of didesmethylsibutramine administered is from about 5 mg to 15 mg ~~per day~~ per day.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein didesmethylsibutramine is administered orally, mucosally, rectally, parenterally, transdermally or subcutaneously.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein didesmethylsibutramine is administered orally, mucosally or transdermally.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41, which further comprises the administration of an additional pharmacologically active compound.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the additional pharmacologically active compound is: a selective serotonin uptake inhibitor; a 5-HT agonist or antagonist; a hypnotic or a sedative; a drug useful in treating psychiatric disorder; a CNS stimulant; or a dopamine receptor antagonist.

50. (Currently amended) The method of claim 41, wherein the optically pure didesmethylsibutramine is (S)-didesmethylsibutramine.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the didesmethylsibutramine is (R,S)-didesmethylsibutramine.